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By *ADAM FITZ-ADAM.*

To be continued every THURSDAY.

THURSDAY, *July* the 19th, 1753.

To Mr. FITZ-ADAM.

SIR,

I TROUBLED you ſome time ago with an account of my diſtreſs, ariſing from the female part of my family. I told you that by an unfortunate trip to Paris my wife and daughter had *run ſtark French*; and I wiſh I could tell you now that they were perfectly recovered: but all I can ſay is, that the violence of the ſymptoms ſeems to abate, in proportion as the cloaths that inflamed them wear out.

MY preſent misfortune flows from a direct contrary cauſe, and affects me much more ſenſibly. The little whims, affectations and delicacies of ladies may be both ridiculous and diſagreeable, eſpecially to thoſe who are obliged to be at once the witneſſes and the martyrs of them; but they are not evils to be compared with the obſtinate wrong-headedneſs, the idle and the illiberal turn of an only ſon; which is unfortunately my caſe.

I ACQUAINTED you that in the education of my ſon I had conformed to the common cuſtom of this country (perhaps I conformed to it too much and too ſoon); that I carried him to Paris, from whence after ſix months ſtay, he was to go on upon his travels, and take the uſual tour of Italy and Germany. I thought it very neceſſary for a young man (though not for a young lady) to be well acquainted with the languages, the manners, the characters and the conſtitutions of other countries; the want of which I experienced and lamented in myſelf. In order to enable him to keep good company, I allowed him more than I could conveniently afford, and I truſted him to the care of a Swiſs governor, a gentleman of ſome learning, good ſenſe, good nature and good manners. But how cruelly I am diſappointed in all theſe hopes, what follows will inform you.

DURING his ſtay at Paris, he only frequented the worſt Engliſh company there, with whom he was unhappily engaged in two or three ſcrapes, which the credit and the good nature of the Engliſh ambaſſador helped him out of. He hired a low Iriſh wench, whom he drove about in a hired chaize, to the great honour of himſelf, his family and his country. He did not learn one word of French, and never ſpoke to Frenchman or Frenchwoman, excepting ſome vulgar and injurious epithets, which he occaſionally beſtowed upon them in very plain Engliſh. His governor very honeſtly informed me of this conduct, which he tryed in vain to reform, and adviſed their removal to Italy, which accordingly I immediately ordered. His behaviour there will appear in the trueſt light to you, by his own and his governor's laſt letters to me, of which I here give you faithful copies.

ROME, *May* the 3d, 1753.

SIR,

" IN the ſix weeks that I paſſed at Florence, and " the week I ſtayed at Genoa, I never had time to " write

" write to you, being wholly taken up with ſeeing
" things, of which the moſt remarkable was the ſteeple
" of Piſa; it is the oddeſt thing I ever ſaw in my life;
" it ſtands all awry; I wonder it does not tumble down.
" I met with a great many of my countrymen, and we
" lived together very ſociably. I have been here now
" a month, and will give you an account of my way of
" life. Here are a great many very agreeable Engliſh
" gentlemen; we are about nine or ten as ſmart Bucks
" as any in England. We conſtantly breakfaſt toge-
" ther, and then either go and ſee ſights, or drive a-
" bout the outlets of Rome in chaizes; but the horſes
" are very bad, and the chaizes do not follow well. We
" meet before dinner at the Engliſh coffee-houſe; where
" there is a very good billiard table, and very good
" company. From thence we go and dine together
" by turns at each other's lodgings. Then after a
" chearful glaſs of claret (for we have made a ſhift to
" get ſome here) we go to the coffee-houſe again; from
" thence to ſupper, and ſo to bed. I do not believe
" that theſe Romans are a bit like the old Romans;
" they are a parcel of thin-gutted, ſniveling, cringing
" dogs; and I verily believe that our ſet could threſh
" forty of them. We never go among them; it would
" not be worth while: beſides, we none of us ſpeak
" Italian, and none of thoſe Signors ſpeak Engliſh;
" which ſhews what ſort of fellows they are. We ſaw
" the Pope go by t'other day in a proceſſion, but we
" reſolved to aſſert the honour of old England; ſo we
" neither bowed nor pulled off our hats to the old rogue.
" Proviſions and liquor are but bad here; and to ſay
" the truth, I have not had one thorough good meal's
" meat ſince I left England. No longer ago than laſt
" ſunday we wanted to have a good plumb-pudding;
" but we found the materials difficult to provide, and
" were obliged to get an Engliſh footman to make it.
" Pray, ſir, let me come home; for I cannot find that
" one is a jot the better for ſeeing all theſe outlandiſh

" places

" places and people. But if you will not let me come
" back, for God's ſake, ſir, take away the impertinent
" mounſeer you ſent with me. He is a conſiderable ex-
" pence to You, and of no manner of ſervice to Me.
" All the Engliſh here laugh at him, he is ſuch a prig.
" He thinks himſelf a fine gentleman, and is always pla-
" guing me to go into foreign companies, to learn fo-
" reign languages, and to get foreign manners; as if I
" were not to live and die in old England, and as if good
" Engliſh acquaintance would not be much more uſeful
" to me than outlandiſh ones. Dear ſir, grant me
" this requeſt, and you ſhall ever find me

" *Your moſt dutiful ſon,*

" G. D."

THE following is a very honeſt and ſenſible letter, which I received at the ſame time from my ſon's governor.

ROME, *May* the 3d, 1753.

SIR,

" I THINK myſelf obliged in conſcience to inform you,
" that the money you are pleaſed to allow me for my
" attendance upon your ſon is abſolutely thrown away;
" ſince I find by melancholy experience, that I can be
" of no manner of uſe to him. I have tried all poſſible
" methods to prevail with him to anſwer, in ſome de-
" gree at leaſt, your good intentions in ſending him a-
" broad; but all in vain: and in return for my endea-
" vours I am either laughed at or inſulted. Sometimes
" I am called a beggarly French dog, and bid to go
" back to my own country and eat my frogs; and ſome-
" times I am mounſeer Ragout, and told that I think
" myſelf a very fine gentleman. I daily repreſent to
" him, that by ſending him abroad you meant that he
" ſhould learn the languages, the manners and the cha-
" racters of different countries, and that he ſhould add
" to the claſſical education which you had given him
" at home, a knowledge of the world, and the genteel
" eaſy manners of a man of faſhion, which can only be

" acquired

" acquired by frequenting the beſt companies abroad. " To which he only anſwers me with a ſneer of con- " tempt, and ſays, *ſo-be-like-ye, ha!* I would have con- " nived at the common vices of youth, if they had been " attended with the leaſt degree of decency or refine- " ment; but I muſt not conceal from you that your ſon's " are of the loweſt and moſt degrading kind, and avow- " ed in the moſt public and indecent manner. I have " never been able to perſuade him to deliver the letters " of recommendation which you procured him; he ſays " he does not deſire to keep ſuch company. I adviſed " him to take an Italian maſter, which he flatly refuſed, " ſaying that he ſhould have time enough to learn Italian " when he went back to England. But he has taken, " of himſelf, a muſic maſter to teach him to play upon " the German flute, upon which he throws away two or " three hours every day. We ſpend a great deal of mo- " ney, without doing you or ourſelves any honour by " it; though your ſon, like the generality of his coun- " trymen, values himſelf upon his expence, and looks " upon all foreigners who are not able to make ſo con- " ſiderable a one, as a parcel of beggars and ſcoundrels; " ſpeaks of them, and if he ſpoke to them, would treat " them as ſuch.

" If I might preſume to adviſe you, ſir, it ſhould be " to order us home forthwith. I can aſſure you that " your ſon's morals and manners will be in much leſs " danger under your own inſpection at home, than they " can be under mine abroad; and I defy him to keep " worſe Engliſh company in England than he now keeps " here. But whatever you may think fit to determine " concerning him, I muſt humbly inſiſt upon my own " diſmiſſion, and upon leave to aſſure you in perſon of " the reſpect with which I have the honour to be,

SIR, *Your* &c.

I HAVE complied with my ſon's requeſt, in conſe- quence of his governor's advice; and have ordered him to come home immediately. But what ſhall I do with him